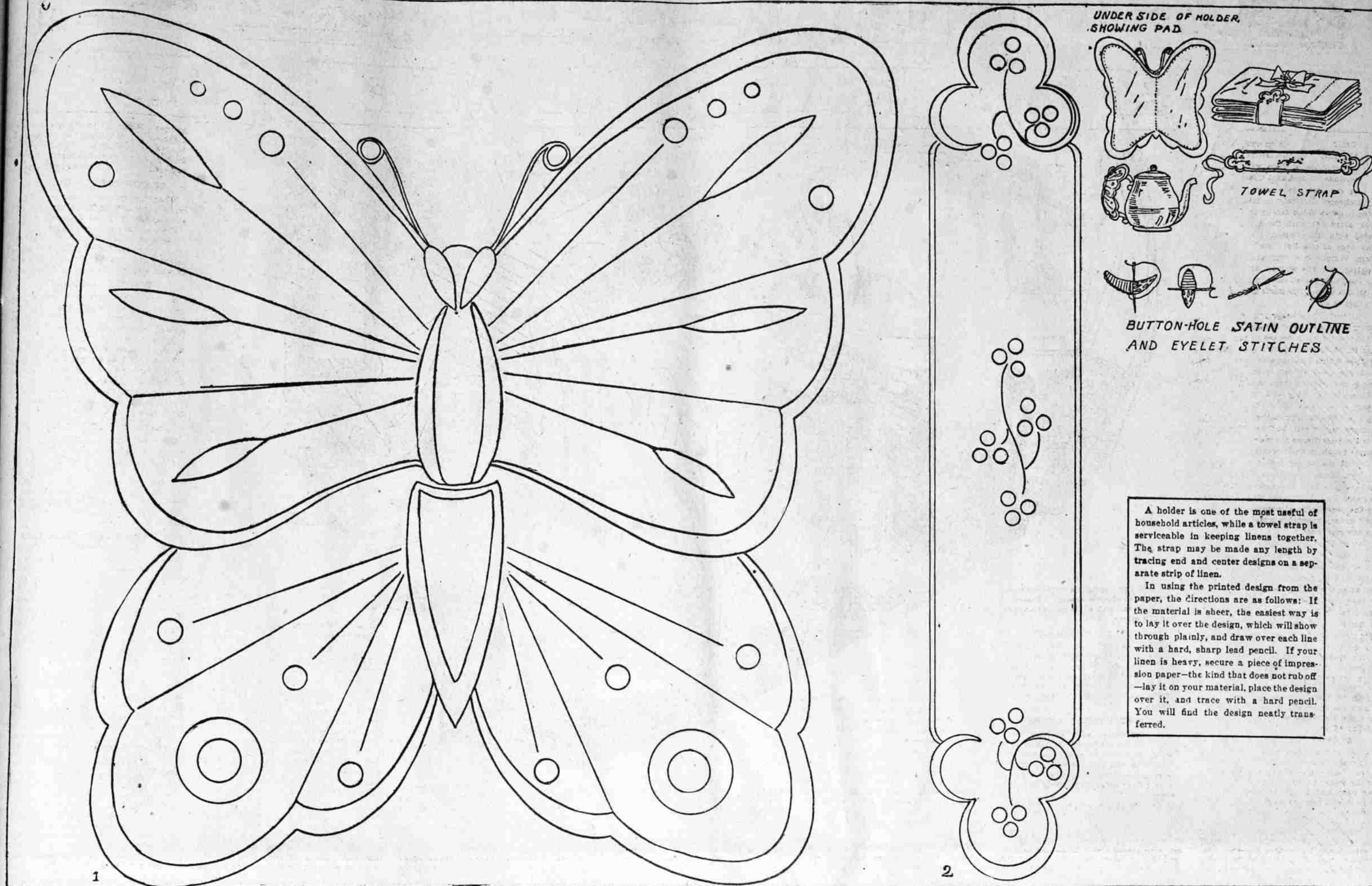


Embroidery Design for Holder and Towel Strap.



A holder is one of the most useful of household articles, while a towel strap is serviceable in keeping linens together. The strap may be made any length by tracing end and center designs on a separate strip of linen.

In using the printed design from the paper, the directions are as follows: If the material is sheer, the easiest way is to lay it over the design, which will show through plainly, and draw over each line with a hard, sharp lead pencil. If your linen is heavy, secure a piece of impression paper—the kind that does not rub off—lay it on your material, place the design over it, and trace with a hard pencil. You will find the design neatly transferred.

The Home Harmonious.

Storage Chests Now Featured by Decorators.

By Anita de Campi.

THE most exclusive decorators are now allowing chests to form what is called the dominating note in any room which they essay to make truly fashionable. During the Victorian era these fine pieces of furniture were ignominiously thrust into the garret. It was a time when all beautiful things succumbed before the ugly, but now that beauty is being sought for in everything, chests and cabinets have come into their own again.

Wardrobe trunks having taught us the lesson of how many clothes can be tucked away in little space, we have improved upon this lesson by transferring the interior arrangement of the trunks into the chests, and have so arrived at an article unsurpassed in its combining of the finest artistic appearance and adequate utility.

No matter how many closets may be built into a house, there is always need of just one more stowing away place, and the chest, in whatever room it may be, whether bedroom, living room, dining or drawing room, supplies that need. The small high chest in modified proportion, illustrated here, has the old-fashioned drawers and shelves taken out of it and it is put to an entirely new use. It forms a part of a bedroom suite and is used as a closet for waists. For its purpose it is much better than the ordinary shirtwaist box, as in it the waists on shoulder hangers are suspended from a center pole. Hanging in this way loosely, front to back, they do not become wrinkled with their own weight, as often happens when they are piled one on the other in a drawer or box.

Excellent as receptacles for men's clothes are the tall deep wardrobe sort of chests, fitted, of course, with a pole and hangers, as described above.

Pieces of this type frequently find their way nowadays into the front hallways, where hat racks are no longer in fashion. Closed and in order they certainly present a more charming appearance than did the unsightly racks. These were usually burdened with limp coats and tumbling hats, and were always placed right near the front door, too, so that the first impression one had on entering the house was one of great disorder, though it might in reality been the only disorderly spot in the house.

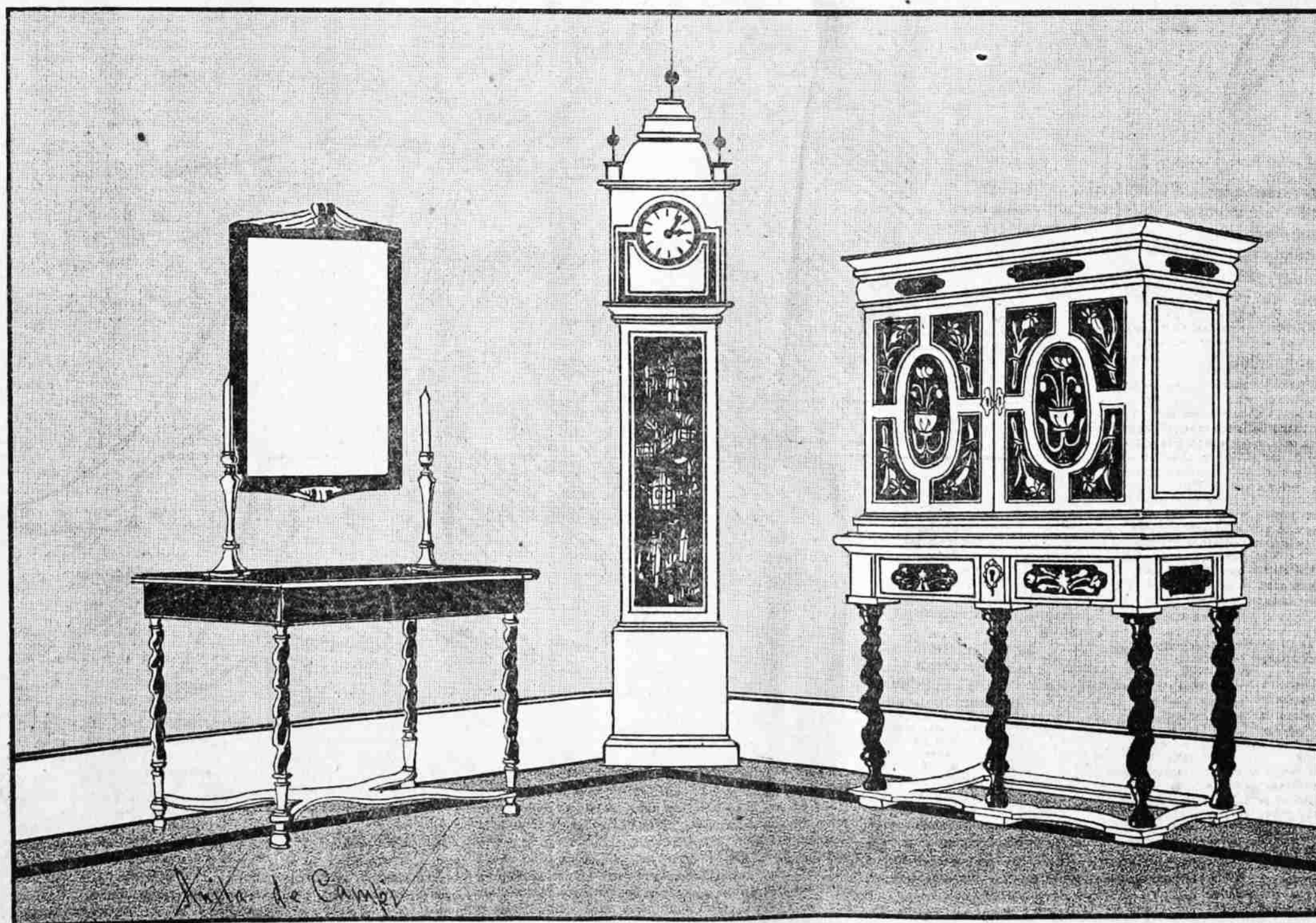
Many are the uses to which the new found old time favorite may be put. The small trunk shaped chests make splendid wood boxes, to be kept near the fireplace.

A chest of some sort in the nursery is indispensable as a receptacle for toys. It is also a good linen and towel box, and, if large enough, should be partitioned off for allotted purposes.

Sometimes they are used as hamper for soiled clothes and are far more sightly than the average patented basket or box made for such use.

In artistic studios they are invariably filled with lengths of silk, brocade and velvet, with scarfs and embroideries and draperies, those poems of color that give untold pleasure to the cultivated sense of sight.

Unbound numbers of magazines are



held in chests in libraries and save the glass bookcases from the litter of papers, pamphlets, etc.

So wide is the range of make and decoration of cabinets and chests that almost any taste can be satisfied or any style or period complied with. Manufacturers are turning them out en suite or to order, either to match or contrast with any prevailing mode. And prices range according to the work put upon them. There are the hand carved chests that are almost invaluable and the hand painted ones that are often home made for a mere

trifle. The home made ones, though they are inexpensive, may be really delightfully quaint and pretty, particularly to go with any of the enameled or painted furniture known as cottage furniture.

Unusual chests are often found in old curiosity shops or even in second-hand stores. I have lately seen one intricately carved, made of black walnut, with Wedgwood plaques set into it by way of further embellishment.

Those painted by Bavarian peasants are most alluring and usable in almost any

room. The foundation color usually is dark—myrtle green, Van Dyke brown, deep blue, or plum. Flowers are painted on this in the most brilliant, full, intense colors, then the whole thing is toned down to a wonderful depth and richness by being gone over with a lacquer in which a little of the foundation color has been mixed.

I have seen a plain pine box, first covered with bright colored flowered wall paper and then lacquered with tinted lacquer as described, and it was surprisingly attractive. It was rich and low in tone,

and could hardly be told from a hand painted chest.

A feature that the good decorator loves to consider is the decorative placing of a piece of furniture, and the chest "finds" itself beautifully in a variety of arrangements. The long, low chest is lovely in the middle of a long wall space, in the hall, library, or living room, with a tapestry hung about it.

Two upright chests are not infrequently used in what is known as bi-symmetrical arrangement; that is, an arrangement that is the same on both sides of a given

or imaginary center. One on each side of a mantel or door, for instance. A small chest is often placed on top of a larger one.

A squat sort of chest looks well in a hallway below a mirror. In large bedrooms chests are now being placed across the foot of beds, instead of couches or lounges. But where the chest is to be put must of course be determined by its shape and size and the taste of the owner. If it is not properly placed, it can throw a room out of balance far more readily than a less important piece could do.

Answers to Inquiries.

B. M. F.: Soft China silk would be nice to shir inside of your china closet glass door. Keep to your color scheme in shades of tan. Silkings would really answer the purpose quite as well, and would cost less than the real silk. The curtains should be shirred on a rod at the top and at the bottom. It would not do to gather them at the top and let them hang free.

MISS ALICE—No, piano scarfs are not used. A fabric paper would be best. Try something without pattern, and select a plain axminster rug. Axminster rug material comes nine feet wide, and can be cut any desired length. It is like velvet. The narrower sort is cheaper, but necessitates having seams. Let your upholstery be figured in quiet tones, and accentuate one color in the figures by repeating it in the brightest value of the color, using for the purpose some small object in the room—a lamp shade for instance, or a vase.

MRS. W. H. P.: Try the double faced velvet portieres for the opening between the rooms, letting the color on each side match the room it faces.

MRS. P. P.—Yes, keep your draperies alike on both doors. Green wicker would be nice for your sun parlor. Yes, there is a decided difference between flax and willow. Your choice for cushions is excellent. The screens would be quite correct between the doorways.

MRS. J. R.: Why do you wish to change your good oak wainscoting, ceiling beams, etc., to mahogany? I should most decidedly advise against it. The natural wood is vastly preferable to imitation by stain. Why not have it fumed if you are tired of the light oak, and use with it Jacobean furniture, or any other of the good dark oak furniture that is at present in such popular demand? For your draperies, if you can find figured stuff in a Jacobean pattern use it; if not, an old blue, either rep or velvet.

How Teas Grade.

THE teas of India and Ceylon are named according to the position of the leaf upon the tea plant. For instance, the lower and larger leaves yield a tea known as "Congou" and "Bohea." This is a coarse variety and needs a lot of attention before it is placed on the market. At one time any kind of black tea was called Bohea. The leaves above Congou are not so coarse and are known as Souchong, while the next in order of ascent are Pekoe. It is above the Pekoe that the small leaves at the top of the plant appear. These produce the best tea and are known as "flowery" and "Orange Pekoe." So don't forget when next ordering Indian and Ceylon tea that the order of quality runs from the top of the plant to the bottom—Orange Pekoe, Pekoe, Souchong, and the blend often sold as "Congou."